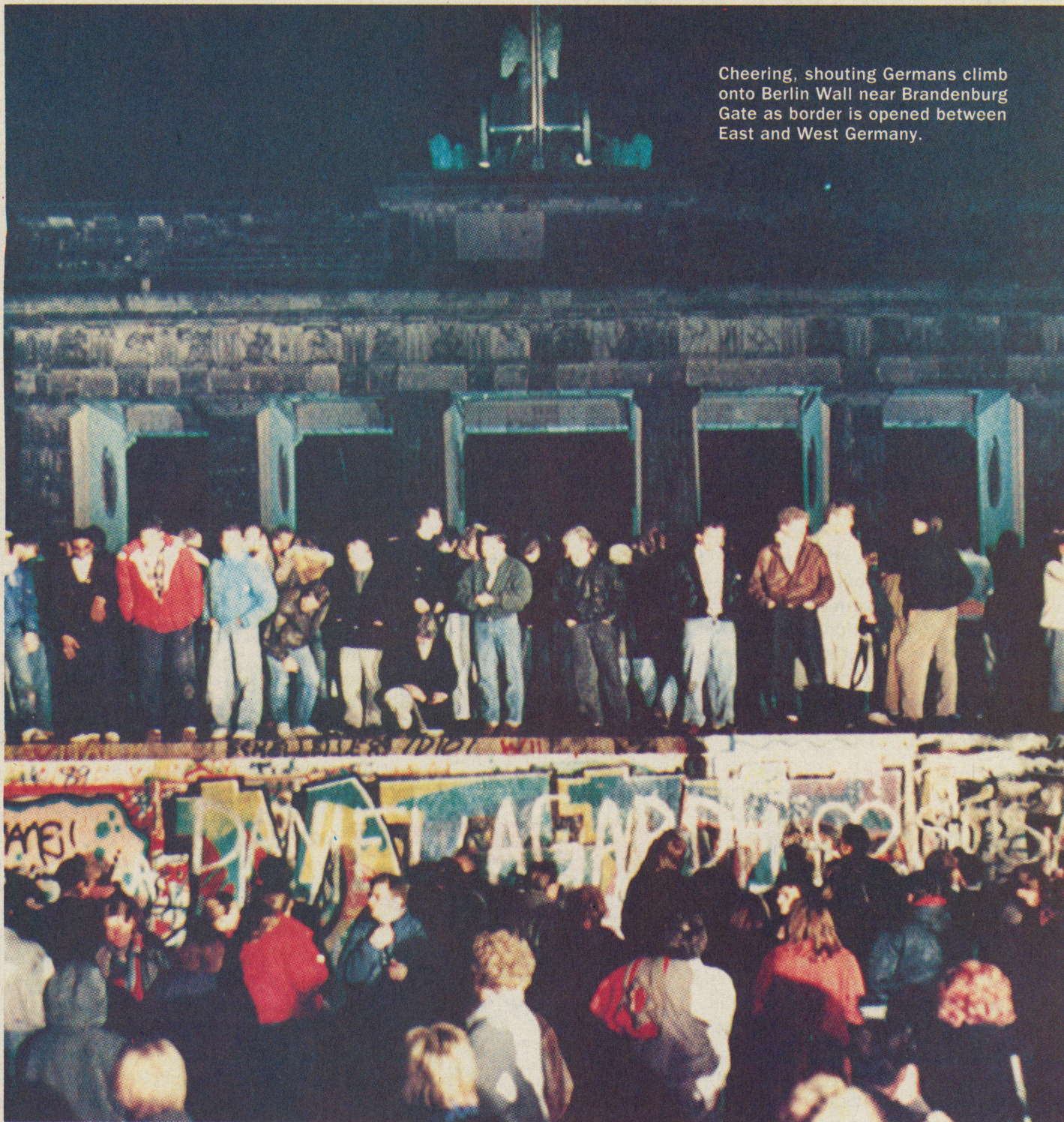


Weekly Reader[®]

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Senior Edition

Cheering, shouting Germans climb onto Berlin Wall near Brandenburg Gate as border is opened between East and West Germany.



—AP/Wide World

Will Freedom for E. Germany Mean Trouble for U.S.?

See story on pages 4–5.



— Weekly Reader art by Heidi Graf

Cows Enjoy Paper Beds

Ever wonder what happens to your *Weekly Reader* and to other newspapers after you've read them?

Some of them end up in unexpected places. Would you believe in cow barns, for example?

More and more dairy farmers in the U.S. are using shredded newspapers for bedding. Many of the farmers find old papers cheaper and better than straw, hay, or sawdust.

Recycling centers favor the idea too. Any new use for old newspapers helps solve the centers' biggest storage problem.

What about the cows? How do they seem to like bedding down in *Weekly Reader* and your local newspapers?

Apparently, it's OK with the cows. They stay cleaner; and the shredded paper may actually help protect the cows from infection, farm experts say.

Giant Tumbleweeds Invade Town

Tumbling tumbleweeds are a colorful symbol of the Old West, but not when they are 6 feet tall and driven by 50-mile-an-hour winds.

Then tumbleweeds become a scary nuisance and fire hazard. The people of Mobridge, S. Dak., can tell you all about it.

One recent evening, 50 Mobridge residents heard what sounded like rocks hitting their homes. The next morning they were shocked by a rare sight—an invasion of giant tumbleweeds.

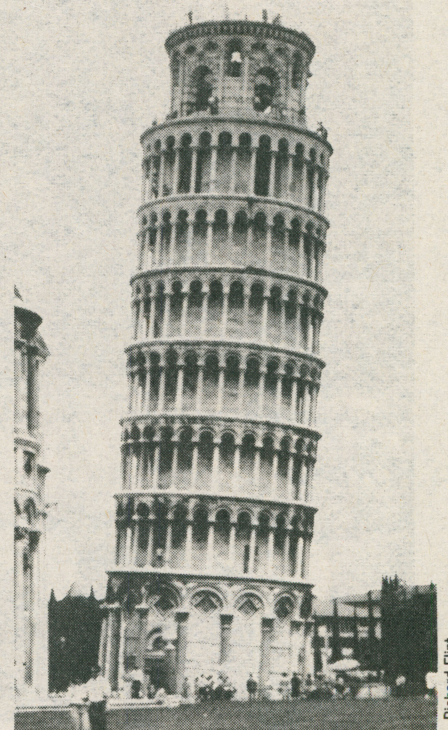
Blown across the prairie from open land near a reservoir, the



— Weekly Reader art by Heidi Graf

weeds had piled up in streets and in peoples' driveways. Some homes were buried under tumbleweeds.

The mayor of Mobridge declared the invasion "very dangerous" because of drought and the possibility of fire. He asked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to help.



— Richard Flint

Tower of Pisa tilts more each year.

Is Leaning Tower Of Pisa a Hazard?

An old dispute over Pisa's leaning tower and when it might fall has broken out again.

Italian government experts have warned that the 800-year-old marble structure is a danger to visiting tourists. The experts suggest banning tourists from the tower until it can be made safe—a job that could take ten years.

"Nonsense, the tower *is* safe now," says Pisa's mayor. To prove his point, the mayor recently climbed 294 spiral steps to the tower's roof. Nearly a million tourists make the same climb each year.

The top of the tower now leans 16 1/2 feet past the base. This distance increases each year about the width of a human hair.

The famous tower began to lean soon after construction began in 1173. Unstable ground beneath the tower causes the tilt, modern engineers believe.

Do Children Imitate TV Actions?

Busy parents have often seated their children in front of TVs to keep them occupied. But has the electronic baby-sitter been doing more than entertaining the child?

A recent study has shown that many babies who watch TV are taking in more than just the patterns on the screen. They can relate TV scenes to real life and imitate what they see on the tube.

Psychologist Andrew Meltzoff of the University of Washington studied dozens of babies 14 and 24 months old. The babies watched a man performing on a TV monitor. The man held a toy constructed of two wooden cubes connected by snugly fitting hollow tubing. The youngsters had never seen this toy before.

Lessons Are Remembered

For about 20 seconds, the man repeatedly pulled the toy apart and then assembled it again. After the TV viewing was over, some tots were given a toy like the one they'd seen on TV. Others were given the toy 24 hours later.

The majority of both groups of young subjects pulled the toy apart just as they'd seen it done on TV. Another group of babies of the same ages, who had not seen the TV presentation, were given the toy. In this group very few were able to figure out how to separate the cubes from the tubing.

A recent study shows that the average two- to five-year-old child, views about 28 hours of TV a week. Some researchers wonder how many of the TV scenes are being remembered and then imitated at some later time.

Professor Meltzoff says that his study raises the possibility that exposure to TV in the home may influence infant behavior more than was previously thought.



Photos show a 14-month-old boy in Professor Meltzoff's laboratory watching a TV presentation. First, the child sees the man on the TV take a toy apart. Later, the boy is given an identical toy. He then imitates the actions he saw on TV. Some psychologists think that imitation may play a role in the early development of speech, language, social, and other skills.

A. N. Meltzoff and M. Hanak

Winds of Change Sweep Europe

"Freedom!" shouts a young man.

"The wall is broken!" shouts a young woman clamoring onto part of the Berlin Wall.

Nearby, East German troops who a day earlier would have shot anyone near the wall, busily bulldoze holes in the wall. The wall had been built by East German troops in 1961 to keep people in Communist East Germany's capital of East Berlin from escaping to democratic West Berlin.

Days later, when the celebrating ended, much of the 28-mile-long ugly scar of a wall still stood. But that really didn't seem to matter.

The wall had been a symbol. It was a symbol of the Cold War conflict that had pitted the U.S. and Western Europe against the Soviet Union and Communist Eastern Europe for more than 45 years.

"Now the wall and the world that built it are gone—shattered forever," says a West German.

Freedom Almost Crushed

The opening of the Berlin Wall and the border between East and West Germany surprised many people. But it almost didn't happen.

Huge public demonstrations by East Germans for freedom and the flight of hundreds of thousands of East Germans to the West had angered East German leaders. So in early October, East Germany's leader ordered troops to open fire the next time the people demonstrated. The violence was canceled, however, by Egon Krenz, head of the security troops. Days later, Krenz became the new leader of East Germany.

Krenz, say experts, opened the border because he had learned a strange lesson—that East Germans would remain only if they were free to leave.

In the six months before the border was opened in November, more than 300,000 East Germans fled their homeland. Perhaps another 1 million to 2 million of East Germany's 16 million people—nearly one-fifth of the country's workforce—will still leave for the West, say experts. They will probably be the country's best-educated and best-trained people.



—AP/Wide World

Germans celebrate on the Berlin Wall near the Brandenburg Gate after the border is opened. Germany has been divided (right) since the end of World War II.

A United Germany?

One way East Germany might try to convince its workers to return home is to agree to unite with West Germany. Then people would know that the same freedoms and job opportunities would exist in both East and West Germany.

Many Germans want a united country. But many people in other countries oppose reuniting Germany.

Germany was torn into pieces at the end of World War II because it had plunged the world into three terrible wars in less than 75 years. The four victors—the United States, Great Britain, France, and the Soviet Union—wanted to make sure that Germany would never be powerful again.

Each of the four countries took a section of Germany and a part of Germany's former capital, Berlin. Eventually, the areas controlled by the U.S., Britain, and France were united to form West Germany. The Soviet-ruled section became East Germany.

A united Germany would be nearly the size of Montana and have about three times the population of California. It would follow only the U.S., the Soviet Union, and Japan in industrial strength.

The U.S., which considers West Germany essential to the defense of Europe, would not want to see a

SPAIN



united Germany become a Soviet ally. And the Soviet Union would not want a united Germany to become a U.S. ally. And neither superpower would trust Germany if it was free to act alone, say experts.

Some Germans, however, say that instead of Germany uniting, what will happen is that all of Europe will unite. Major steps toward uniting some countries in Western Europe are to be completed in 1992.

What Is Real Question?

"If you ask what side a united Germany will be on, you are asking the wrong question," says one German. "The real question is: Are there sides anymore?"

East Germany, like the rest of Eastern Europe, isn't experiencing a simple revolution. There is more at stake than kicking out a few leaders, say experts.

The people of Eastern Europe are replacing Com-

munist ideas with ideas of peace, democracy, personal rights, and rewards for individual effort. The U.S. has championed these ideas for 200 years. But in Eastern Europe, these are earth-shattering ideas. These ideas will topple governments, sweep away political parties, destroy defense agreements, change industries, and end entire ways of life, say experts.

"U.S. ideas have won. There aren't any sides anymore," says the West German official.

Some people warn, however, that the changes underway in Eastern Europe might end overnight. "The changes could be a Communist trick to catch the U.S. off guard," says one man.

But no matter whom you believe, one thing is certain: the world as we have known it for nearly half a century ended overnight, says President George Bush. "And there are more changes ahead," he says.



IMPERIAL GERMANY. On the eve of World War I, Germany bordered the Russian Empire on the east in an area that is now Poland.



WEIMAR GERMANY. Germany lost a tenth of its territory in World War I.



HITLER'S GERMANY. Hitler expanded Germany during World War II.

Weekly Reader maps by Greg Harris

A Second Chance



—art by Chari Radin

By Leon Rosenberg, Ph.D.
Johns Hopkins Children's Center

You probably began this school year with good intentions. You had many goals—get homework done on time, make your work top quality, review your notes every week to be ready for every test. You wanted good grades, happy parents, and—perhaps most of all—a happy you.

Now, almost half the year is over. How are you doing?

Maybe you started out well, but are slacking off. Or maybe you are doing well in some subjects, but not others. Some kids get so unhappy about one bad grade that they can't keep up with their other subjects.

It's normal to feel upset when you can't reach your goal. And it's easy to let those feelings be very powerful. Then, you have trouble getting started again.

What should you do?

Do what grown-ups do. Keep the grades in perspective. That means you don't give a bad grade more importance than it deserves.

A bad grade never means that you are dumb or stupid. It always means that you need some help. Maybe you don't know the best way to study for a test, or how to find important facts when you read, or how much time to plan for review. But you do know where to go for help. Ask your teachers, parents, or school counselor.

Now is the time to set new goals. Promise yourself you can and will do better. Maybe not all A's. But at least better grades.

REMEMBER: A good teacher knows that a poor grade means a student needs help. Ask for the help you need. Set new goals, and give yourself a second chance to succeed this year.



—San Francisco 49ers

Joe Montana Still on Top

Today, Joe Montana is called a "football hero." But only a few years ago, some sportswriters said the San Francisco 49ers quarterback was washed up.

Montana injured his back in 1986 and some people wondered if he could still be a top quarterback. But Montana managed to come back and play in 1987.

The 1988 season, however, didn't start as well. For the first time in his career, Montana sat on the bench.

But at the end of the '88 season, Montana proved that he still had what it takes to be one of the best. He became the starting quarterback for the 49ers, and in January led them to a 20-16 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals in the Super Bowl.

Super Bowl Victories

That victory in the 1989 Super Bowl was the 49ers third in the 1980's. And each time the 49ers won, Montana was the star.

In the '89 Super Bowl, Montana set a record for most passing yardage in a Super Bowl. In the '82 and '85 games, Montana was voted the Most Valuable Player. Some experts say he deserved that award again in '89.

This year, Montana is trying to lead the 49ers to their first Super Bowl win of the 1990's. The 49ers started the year with nine wins in ten games. And Montana completed about 70 percent of his passes in those games.

Joe Montana, the man sometimes called the best quarterback of the 80's, is showing he still has the talent to be a quarterback of the 90's.

FUN & STUFF

Fred Savage Is Young 'Wizard'

For a lot of kids, the early teens can be tough years. But for actor Fred Savage, the teen years seem to be the wonder years.

Fred plays 13-year-old Kevin Arnold on the hit TV show "The Wonder Years." TV critics have raved about both the show and Fred's acting ability.

And now Fred is the star of a new movie, *The Wizard*. Fred plays a video game whiz who goes with his brother to a video game championship in Los Angeles, Calif. Along the way to LA, the brothers make money by playing games against other kids.

An Early Start

The Wizard is Fred's fifth Hollywood movie. He made his first film when he was only eight. But Fred's acting career goes back even further than that.

When Fred was five and living in Chicago, Ill., he



—Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.

Fred Savage was nominated for an Emmy last year.

auditioned for a hot dog commercial. He didn't get that part, but by age six Fred was performing in TV and radio commercials.

When he was 12, Fred got the part on the "The Wonder Years." He now lives in Los Angeles with his mother, brother, and sister. His father still works in Chicago and flies to LA every weekend.

Fred says that he leads a normal life when he's not acting. He plays sports and collects baseball cards. And, he says, "I still get picked last when other kids pick softball teams and stuff."

But when it comes to acting, a lot of people consider Fred a top pick.

Senior Sleuths

Senior Sleuths Janet and Michael are at a benefit concert. The admission is \$10, and all the money collected is to be used to help the homeless.

During a break, the concert organizer comes up to the Sleuths. "Someone's robbed the box office," the organizer says. "We called the police, and Chief Henderson has already caught two suspects."

The Sleuths head to the police station.

"Sleuths, we nabbed these two guys near the hall," the Chief says. "They both had a lot of cash."

"Hey, man," the first suspect says, "I was at the

concert because I wanted to help the homeless.

This cash is from selling my car." The suspect holds out a wad of \$100 bills.

The second suspect has \$10 and \$20 bills stuffed in his jacket pocket.

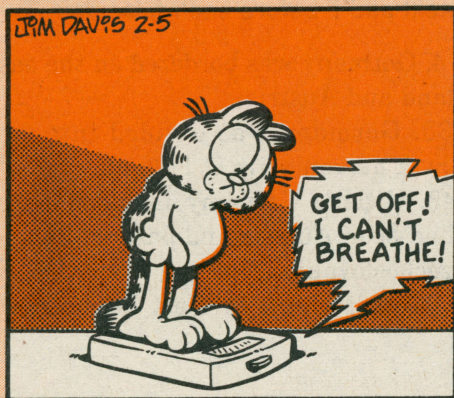
"And I stopped by to check out the music," the man says. "I was heading to the bank from the store where I work. I was going to make a deposit."

"Chief," Janet says, "you'd better deposit one of these men in jail."

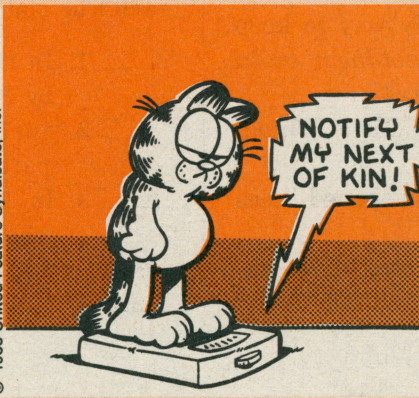
Whom does Janet suspect and why?

Garfield

by Jim Davis



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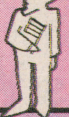








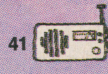









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News Chart Reading

Study the information about the U.S., East Germany, and West Germany given at right. Then complete the sentences by filling in the missing words or numbers.

1. W. Germany has a population of _____ people, and E. Germany has a population of _____ people.
2. If E. Germany and W. Germany became one country, the united Germany would have a population of about _____ people.
3. The U.S. would have a population roughly _____ times the size of a united Germany.
4. The U.S. has an area of _____ square miles, compared to _____ square miles for E. Germany and W. Germany combined.
5. _____ has more people per square mile than E. Germany.
6. On average, people in E. Germany live longer than do people in _____.
7. Of the three countries shown, the one with the most TV's and radios per 100 people is _____, and the country with the most telephones per 100 people is _____.

Comparison	USA	W. Germany	E. Germany
Area (in square miles)	3.6 million 	95,975 	41,768 
Population	247.5 million 	60 million 	17 million 
People Per Square Mile	67 	626 	400 
Income Per Person	\$18,000* 	\$13,000* 	\$11,000* 
TVs Per 100 People	65 	38 	35 
Radios Per 100 People	200 	41 	38 
Phones Per 100 People	57 	65 	21 
Life Span Men Women	71.5 years 78.5 years 	67.2 years 73.4 years 	68.8 years 74.7 years 

*Estimates for 1989

— art by Heidi Graf

News Comprehension

Complete the following sentences by underlining the correct word or words.

1. The town of Mobridge, S.Dak., was recently invaded by (*UFO's, tumbleweeds, sharks*).
2. The distance Pisa's tower leans increases by about the width of a (*car, hand, hair*) each year.
3. Many dairy farmers are using (*paper, videotapes, tumbleweeds*) for cow bedding.
4. Prof. Meltzoff suggests that TV has (*no effect, more effect than previously thought*) on infants.
5. The Berlin Wall separates East Germany's capital of East Berlin from (*the capital of West Germany, West Berlin, Wittenburg*).
6. The (*U.S., Soviets, East Germans*) built the wall.
7. Egon Krenz learned that the only way to keep East Germans at home was to (*shoot them, build the Berlin Wall, allow them to leave*).
8. West Germany is an ally of (*the Soviet Union, Switzerland, the U.S.*).
9. (*East German, U.S., Soviet*) troops opened holes in the Berlin Wall.
10. If united, Germany would be the (*second, fourth, fifteenth*) most powerful industrial nation.

News Vocabulary

Beside each word in the column at left, write the letter of its definition.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| snug _____ | a. to put together as one |
| imitate _____ | b. to climb awkwardly |
| nuisance _____ | c. fitting closely or tightly |
| clamber _____ | d. to be or appear like something else; to copy |
| unite _____ | e. annoying or unpleasant |

News Map Reading

Study the maps on page 5. Then write T before each true statement and F before each false one.

- _____ 1. In 1914, Germany was bordered on the east by Poland and Austria.
- _____ 2. In 1933, Germany was divided into two parts by a narrow strip of Poland.
- _____ 3. In 1943, Hitler's Germany included all of what had been Austria and parts of Poland and Czechoslovakia.
- _____ 4. Today, West Berlin is in West Germany.